

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

### 1. DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIONTAILED MONKEY, *MACACA SILENUS* (LINNAEUS)

Blanford in the old Fauna (1891) gives the distribution of this species as 'the forests of Sahyadri range or Western Ghats from about 14 degrees North to Cape Comorin'. Pocock in the Fauna of British India, 2nd ed.—Mammalia Vol. 1, page 69 (1939) refers to Baker's record [*JASB*, xxviii, p. 283 (not page 238)] of its occurring in the Western Ghats as far north as Goa. His own distribution (p. 66) reads 'SW. India, the Western Ghats, principally of Travancore and Cochin, but *alleged* to occur from about 14 degrees N. lat. to Cape Comorin.' Prater in The Book of Indian Animals gives 'Western Ghats from Kanara southwards to Travancore and Cochin'. Ellerman and Scott also state that the approximate distribution of this species is 'Peninsular India, the Western Ghats principally of Travancore and Cochin'.

It may therefore be worth recording that R. S. Dharmakumarsinhji, Wild Life Preservation Officer, Bombay State, saw one in N. Kanara on the Anshi Ghat (alt. 1,000 ft.), between Kadra and Kumbharwada, on 20 December 1955-*ca.* 15° N. lat. This locality may now be pin-pointed for the northernmost record.

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EDITORS

### 2. LONGEVITY IN THE CEYLON RUDDY MONGOOSE *HERPESTES SMITHII ZEYLANIUS* THOMAS<sup>1</sup>

Phillips's (1954) record of the duration of life in captivity of a Ceylon Ruddy Mongoose (*Herpestes smithii zeylanicus*) in view of the reported inadaptability (compared with other mongooses) of this species to confinement prompts me to publish the undermentioned data. The circumstances suggest at least an equal longevity with Phillips's example and may exceed it.

In April 1931 I was presented with a fully adult but delightfully tame female Ruddy Mongoose. She lived in my private collection in Colombo until December 1944 when she was deposited in the Zoological Gardens, Dehiwela, pending transfer to the Regent's Park menagerie of the Zoological Society of London, which she eventually reached in July 1946. She died there on 19 June 1947, apparently not from organic disease, the only abnormal condition found at death being slight osteomalacia.

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